

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 CARACA 04532 070716Z
ACTION H-03

INFO OCT-01 AID-01 SS-07 ARA-06 NSC-06 ISO-00 /024 W
-----071903Z 067420 /41

R 061523Z MAY 77
FM AMEMBASSY CARACAS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7545

UNCLAS CARACAS 4532

CODEL GRAVEL
H PASS: CODEL GRAVEL

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: OREP (GRAVEL, MIKE)
SUBJ: CODEL GRAVEL

REF: STATE 047735

1. SENATOR MIKE GRAVEL VISITED VENEZUELA MARCH 20-22. HE WAS ACCOMPANIED BY HIS STAFF ASSISTANT MR. WILLIAM HOFFMAN AND MAJOR RICHARD PHLAND. SENATOR GRAVEL'S SCHEDULE IN CARACAS WAS LIMITED TO ONE DAY, MONDAY, MARCH 21 IN VIEW OF HIS ARRIVAL LATE ON MARCH 20 AND HIS EARLY DEPARTURE ON MARCH 22. AFTER A BRIEF CALL ON AMBASSADOR VAKY SENATOR GRAVEL AND HIS PARTY ATTENDED A COUNTRY TEAM BRIEFING CHAIRED BY AMBASSADOR VAKY AT THE EMBASSY. THE SENATOR PAID COURTESY CALLS ON PRESIDENT CARLOS ANDRES PEREZ; GONZALO BARRIOS, PRESIDENT OF THE NATIONAL CONGRESS AND OF THE ACCION DEMOCRATICA PARTY; VALENTIN HERNANDEZ, MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINES; AND DIEGO ARRIA, MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND TOURISM. IN THE MEETING WITH PRESIDENT PEREZ HE WAS ACCOMPANIED BY THE AMBASSADOR AND MEMBERS OF THE VENEZUELAN-AMERICAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY. IN ADDITION TO THESE ACTIVITIES, THE SENATOR SPOKE AT A LUNCHEON IN HIS HONOR SPONSORED BY THE VENEZUELAN-AMERICAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY.

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 CARACA 04532 070716Z

2. SENATOR GRAVEL DISCUSSED A NUMBER OF SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES DURING THE COURSE OF HIS VISIT. IN THE MEETING WITH THE VENEZUELAN-AMERICAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY, THE SENATOR REVIEWED PROSPECTS FOR AMENDMENT OF THE U.S. TRADE LAW TO ELIMINATE THE EXCLUSION OF OPEC MEMBERS FROM ELIGIBILITY FOR GENERALIZED TARIFF PREFERENCES AND ALSO DISCUSSED PROSPECTS FOR AMENDMENT OF INCOME TAX MEASURES AFFECTING U.S. CITIZENS

RESIDING ABROAD. THE CHAMBER IS A STRONG SUPPORTER OF AMENDMENT OF BOTH THESE LAWS. THE SENATOR ASSURED HIS AUDIENCE THAT HE FAVORS AMENDMENT OF BOTH MEASURES ALONG LINES ADVOCATED BY THE CHAMBER.

3. IN HIS MEETINGS WITH PRESIDENT PEREZ AND OTHER VENEZUELAN OFFICIALS SENATOR GRAVEL DISCUSSED VARIOUS MEASURES INCLUDING THE U.S. TRADE LAW, VENEZUELA'S POSITION AS A PETROLEUM SUPPLIER TO THE U.S. AND THE CANAL NEGOTIATIONS WITH PANAMA. THE SENATOR MADE CLEAR THE HE IS A STRONG SUPPORTER OF LEGISLATION TO AMEND THE TRADE LAW IN VENEZUELA'S FAVOR AND OF A NEW CANAL TREATY. THE SENATOR'S VIEWS WERE RECEIVED WITH INTEREST AND APPRECIATION BY THE VENEZUELAN OFFICIALS INVOLVED. TALKS WITH THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINES ON PETROLEUM AND OTHER ENERGY MATTERS WERE ALSO VERY CORDIAL. IT WAS CONCLUDED THAT THERE ARE EXCELLENT PROSPECTS FOR COOPERATION IN ENERGY MATTERS AND THAT THERE IS A SIGNIFICANT MUTUALITY OF INTERESTS BETWEEN VENEZUELA AND THE UNITED STATES IN SOLUTIONS TO ENERGY PROBLEMS.

4. INFORMAL CONSULTATION WITH SENATOR GRAVEL AT THE TIME OF HIS VISIT INDICATED THAT HE WOULD PREFER THAT NO REPORT BE PREPARED. CONSEQUENTLY, THE CONTENTS OF HIS REPORT HAVE NOT BEE CLEARED WITH SENATOR GRAVEL OR MEMBERS OF HIS PARTY. THE REPORT WAS PREPARED IN RESPONSE TO AN INFORMAL REQUEST FROM HIS OFFICE.

VAKY

UNCLASSIFIED

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 06-May-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977CARACA04532
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770161-0754
Format: TEL
From: CARACAS
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770587/aaaacwqf.tel
Line Count: 88
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: dac58a99-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION H
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 STATE 47735
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 28-Oct-2004 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2620107
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: CODEL GRAVEL
TAGS: OREP, (GRAVEL, MIKE)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/dac58a99-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009